(c) the amount spent so far on the above rail line;

(d) when the project was to be completed; and

(e) whether Government would take steps to earmark more funds to complete the above project expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) The year 1996-97.

(b) Rs. 157 cr. at 1995-96 price level.

(c) Rs. 8.56 cr. upto 31.3.2001.

(d) and (e) No target date has been fixed. The work would be progressed and completed as per availability of resources.

Gauge conversion of Sakaleshpur-Mangalore rail line

2871. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount earmarked for converting the Sakaleshpur Mangalore meter gauge rail line into broad gauge;

(b) the amount spent so far;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the conversion work has virtually stopped;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when the above work would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Sakaleshpur-Mangalore is a part of sanctioned gauge conversion project of Arsikere-HassanMangalore. Estimated cost of the entire project is Rs. 325.98 crores.

(b) Rs. 140.87 crore upto 31.3.2001.

(c) No, Sir. The work is in progress.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No target date has yet been fixed. The work would be completed in the coming years depending upon availability of resources.